

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-59. (Canceled)

60. (Currently amended) A The method of claim 58 for producing a wrinkle free seam in a garment, comprising:

- a) placing a bonding element comprising an adhesive material between two garment components; the adhesive material having a hot pressing melting point greater than 160°C;
- b) sewing a set of stitches traversing through the bonding element and at least one garment component such that at least one seam is formed;
- c) providing sufficient heat and pressure to effect the bonding of the bonding element to at least one garment component,
wherein the adhesive material has a peel strength of equal to or greater than 0.5 pounds per inch, and
wherein providing sufficient heat and pressure comprises pressing the seam at a pressure of at least 2.5 kilograms per square centimeter and a temperature of greater than 160°C for about 5 to 30 seconds.

61. (Currently amended) The method of claim 60 58, whereby one or more of the garment components are folded to make a seam selected from the group consisting of hem button stay seam, hem bottom seam, pocket seam, sleeve seam, sleeve placket slit seam, yoke seam, shoulder seam, side seam, armhole seam, single needle side seam, double needle side seam, and collar seam.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61, wherein an attachment folder is used to place the bonding element between the garment components and to fold the garment components.

63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61, wherein the bonding element is folded over an edge of one of the garment components to form a U-shape in cross-section.

64. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61, wherein the bonding element comprises an interlining having the adhesive material on one surface of the interlining.

65. (Previously presented) The method of claim 63, wherein the bonding element comprises an interlining having the adhesive material on an outer surface of the folded bonding element.

66. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61, wherein the bonding element comprises an interlining having the adhesive material on both surfaces of the interlining.

67. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61, wherein the bonding element consists of a solid thermal adhesive film.

68-72. (Canceled)

73. (Previously presented) A garment seam, comprising:

- a) first and second garment components;
- b) a bonding element between the first and second garment components,
- c) at least one set of stitches traversing through the bonding element and at least one of the garment components to form a seam,
 - i) wherein the bonding element comprises an interlining having an adhesive material on one surface of the interlining that is directly bonded to the first garment component, the adhesive material having a hot pressing melting point of greater than 160°C at a pressure of 2.5 kilograms per square centimeter and a peel strength of equal to or greater than about 0.5 pounds per inch.

74. (Currently amended) The garment seam of claim 73, wherein the seam is selected from the group consisting of hem button stay seam, hem bottom seam, pocket seam, sleeve seam, sleeve placket slit seam, yoke seam, shoulder seam, side seam, armhole seam, single needle side seam, double needle side seam, cuff seam and collar seam.

75. (Previously presented) The seam of claim 74, wherein the bonding element is folded over an edge of the first garment component to form a U-shape in cross-section.

76. (Previously presented) A pocket seam comprising:

- a) a first garment component having an upper surface and a lower surface and two substantially parallel side edges and a bottom edge forming a pocket of a shirt;
- b) a bonding element comprising an interlining with upper and lower surfaces, and an adhesive material on the upper surface having a hot pressing melting point greater than 160°C;
- c) a second garment component having an upper surface and a lower surface;

wherein the upper surface of the bonding element contacts the lower surface of the first garment component along the side edges and bottom edge of the first garment component, and the first garment component is folded such that the side edges and bottom edge of the first garment component fold over the bonding element such that the lower surface of the first garment component is adjacent to the lower surface of the bonding element,

wherein the upper surface of the second garment component is adjacent to the folded over upper surface of the first garment component; and

- d) stitches pass through the first garment component, the bonding element, the first garment component and the second garment component,

wherein the bonding element is directly bonded to the first garment component.

77. (Currently amended) A ~~sleeve-placket-slit~~ garment seam comprising:

- a) a bonding element comprising an interlining having an upper surface and a lower surface and an adhesive material on the upper surface having a hot pressing melting point greater than 160°C;
- b) a first garment component having an upper surface directly adjacent to the lower surface of the bonding element;

- c) a second garment component having an upper surface directly adjacent to the lower surface of the first garment component,

wherein the first garment component is U-folded around the bonding element, further U-folded upon itself, and U-folded again so that the lower surface of the first garment component is directly adjacent to the lower surface of the second garment component; and

- d) stitches through the first garment component, the bonding element, the first garment component, the second garment component, the first garment component, and the first garment component,

wherein the bonding element is directly bonded to the first garment component.

78. (Previously presented) A sleeve seam comprising:

- a) first and second garment components, each having an edge;
- b) first and second bonding elements; wherein
 - i) the first and second bonding elements are U-folded around the edge of the first and second garment components;
 - ii) stitches pass through the first bonding element, the first garment component, and the first bonding element, and stitches pass through the second bonding element, the second garment component, and the second bonding element,
 - iii) the second garment component is further folded against itself;
 - iv) stitches pass through the second bonding element, the second garment component, the second bonding element, and the second garment component;
 - v) first and second garment components are adjacent to each other such that U-shaped first and second bonding elements abut;

- vi) stitches pass through the first bonding element, the first garment component, the first bonding element, and the second garment component;
 - vii) the first garment component is folded back such that the first garment component abuts the second bonding element; and
 - viii) stitches pass through the first garment component, second bonding element, the second garment component, the second bonding element, and the second garment component,
- wherein the first and second bonding elements are directly bonded to both the first and second garment components.

79. (Currently amended) A double stitch side seam comprising:

- a) a first garment component having an upper surface;
- b) a second garment component having an edge and upper and lower surfaces;
- c) a U-folded bonding element ~~comprising an adhesive and~~ having an inner and an outer surface; wherein
 - i) the U-folded bonding element is around the edge of the second garment component such that the inner surface of the bonding element abuts the upper and lower surfaces of the second garment component;
 - ii) stitches pass through the bonding element, the second garment component, and the bonding element,
 - iii) the lower surface of the first garment component abuts the upper surface of the second garment component;
 - iv) the second garment component is folded back so that the outer surface of the bonding element abuts the upper surface of the first garment component;

- v) the first garment component is folded back against the bonding element such that the upper surface of the first garment component abuts the outer surface of the bonding element;
- vi) two sets of stitches pass through the first garment component, the bonding element, the second garment component, the bonding element, the first garment component, and the second garment component,

wherein bonding element is directly bonded to both the first and second garment components.

80. (Currently amended) A single stitch side seam comprising:

- a) a first garment component having an upper surface;
- b) a second garment component having an edge and upper and lower surfaces;
- c) a U-folded bonding element ~~comprising an adhesive and~~ having an inner and an outer surface; wherein
 - i) the U-folded bonding element is around the edge of the second garment component such that the inner surface of the bonding element abuts the upper and lower surfaces of the second garment component;
 - ii) stitches pass through the bonding element, the second garment component, and the bonding element,
 - iii) the lower surface of the first garment component abuts the upper surface of the second garment component;
 - iv) the second garment component is folded back so that the outer surface of the bonding element abuts the upper surface of the first garment component;
 - v) stitches pass through the bonding element, the second garment component, the bonding element, the first garment component, the second garment component;

- vi) the first garment component is folded back against the bonding element such that the upper surface of the first garment component abuts the outer surface of the bonding element;
 - vii) stitches pass through the first garment component, the bonding element, the second garment component, the bonding element, the first garment component, and the second garment component, wherein bonding element is directly bonded to both the first and second garment components.
81. (Newly presented) The sleeve seam of claim 78, wherein said first bonding element comprises an adhesive on at least one of said inner and outer surfaces.
82. (Newly presented) The sleeve seam of claim 78, wherein said first bonding element comprises a thermal polymer tape.
83. (Newly presented) The double stitch seam of claim 79, wherein said bonding element comprises an adhesive on at least one of said inner and outer surfaces.
84. (Newly presented) The double stitch seam of claim 79, wherein said bonding element comprises a thermal polymer tape.
85. (Newly presented) The single stitch side seam of claim 80, wherein said bonding element comprises an adhesive on at least one of said inner and outer surfaces.
86. (Newly presented) The single stitch side seam of claim 80, wherein said bonding element comprises a thermal polymer tape.